



**SPANISH**

**Lesson Summary**

**UNIT 5**

**Situations**

**Lesson**

**1**

## Introduction of the Composition

### INTRODUCTION

You may already know the purpose of the introduction or opening paragraph of a composition. Take a moment to think about this. Do you agree that an introduction serves the following purposes?

- To give the reader some idea what the composition is about.
- To create some expectation about the writing
- To create some excitement and desire to read on

If you already have corrected compositions (in any language) with positive comments on the introduction, it will be useful to take a look at them before the lesson begins.

### OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson you will be able to:

- a) State the purpose of an introduction
- b) Identify elements of the introduction
- c) Use the correct language to express some ideas for the introduction of your narrative/ descriptive composition in Spanish.



## GETTING STARTED

Here are four good introductions to get you started. You must read them and make **your** observations. Imagine what topic was given, what the details the writer will choose to include and what the end might be like. Then decide why you came to those conclusions.

You will use the following **key**

TECHNIQUE	INDICATION
<b>Bold type</b>	<b>the time is indicated</b>
<u>Underline</u>	<u>the weather is indicated</u>
<u>Double underline</u>	<u>indication of items or persons in the physical environment</u>

Hacia calor. Hacia un calor infernal. No sentía ningún viento soplar de hacia el mar. Las hojas de los cocoteros estaban inmóviles. Todos los pájaros se alejaban de la aldea.

**Era el trece de enero. Eran las nueve en punto.** Acepté mi boletín de notas. Inmediatamente oí la voz de mi papá. También veía la cara triste de mi mamá. **El trimestre había empezado el lunes de esa semana..**

**Hace tres años, durante mis vacaciones de navidad,** me ocurrió algo que nunca olvidaré. Salí al patio y hacía un viento loco pero no hacía frío entonces decidí sentarme en el patio.

¡Ole! ¡Ole! gritaban los argentinos sentados al lado de George y Ángel en el estadio nacional de Cuba. Hacía mucho calor pero no hacían caso porque **el partido** era muy emocionante.

You should be able to guess the topics from the details given. You will discuss these with your tutor.. E.g. **Sample1** could be the start of *A Christmas surprise, a mishap at Christmas, a strange Christmas present or an unforgettable experience.*

You may detect other elements such as the length of the sentences, the use of sound, or the expression of feeling /perceptions. Your tutor will guide you through those discussions too.



## ACTIVITY 1

To write a good introduction you must learn/ revise the vocabulary for expressions of time:

Hace- ago	Era(n)- It was	Pasad(o) (a)- last
Durante- during	En el mes de- in the month of	la vez- time=occasion
El año- year	El tiempo-time in general	La semana- week
El mes- month	La temporada- season=period	Antes- before
Después- afterwards	La estación seca- dry season	La estación de lluvias- rainy Season
A principios de- at the beginning of		
Hace una semana- a week ago		El jueves pasado- last Thursday

These three are to be learnt by heart:

Por primera vez- for the first time Por última vez- for the last time

Erase una vez- there was once, once upon a time there was

**Now write your own time phrases to be discussed with your tutor**



## ACTIVITY 2

In lesson three of the last unit you looked at expressing the weather. In your introduction, you must express the weather **in past time**. To do this, use the **imperfect** as in the table below.

Presente	Imperfecto
Hace buen tiempo	Hacía buen tiempo
Hace mal tiempo	Hacía mal tiempo
Hace calor	Hacía calor
Hace frío	Hacía frío
Hace sol	Hacía sol
Hace viento	Hacía viento
Está lloviendo	Estaba lloviendo
Está nublado	Estaba nublado
Está nevando	Estaba nevando
Hay niebla	Había niebla

**Now imagine that you are required to write a composition on a day at the zoo. Write some of the elements you will include in your introduction.**



## ASSESSMENT

The assessment is ongoing throughout the lesson. The tutor views the work of students according to their pace and assigns additional writing tasks as appropriate.

## CONCLUSION

You must have noted the critical language elements of the introduction to the narrative/descriptive essay.

They are

- A) expressions of time
- B) the weather
- C) appropriate vocabulary
- D) appropriate tense

You will note as well the other introductory techniques discussed with the tutor

Sentence length

The use of sound

The expression of feeling or perception

The first two critical elements have been covered in this lesson . The next two will be covered in upcoming lessons.. In the next lesson you will focus on completing an introduction of appropriate length using sentences of varying length, sound and .perceptions.

**!Adelante a lección cinco!**